

Temperance Column.

Among the saddest and most appalling results of intemperance are those diseases of the brain which so frequently ensue from the determined efforts of strong minded men to cure themselves of the vice. I will give a few of these cases that have at different times been brought under my notice:

A gentleman had engaged a butler, whose character for integrity and sobriety for many years had been an excellent one; but during the last six months he had not been in a situation, having attempted to start an inn with his savings, but had not been successful. For some time the man's conduct was of a most exemplary description. One night, one of the young ladies, in state of great alarm, entered the bedroom of the governess, and informed her that she had seen a light pass her bedroom door, and had heard a footstep ascending the stairs. The lady thought she had been merely dreaming and advised her to go to bed again, and nothing more was said on the matter. The little girl, however, was fully persuaded that she had not been in error, and resolved to watch again the next night, and at the same hour she saw the light pass her room, and hear the step again ascending the stairs. She immediately went to the governess, and this time informed her that she was certainly not deceived, and requested the lady to arise from her bed and judge for herself. The governess immediately arose, and throwing a dressing-gown over her stood at the partially open door and in a short time she perceived a light descending the stairs, and directly above it the butler, carrying a candle in his hand, made his appearance. It was difficult for her to judge whether the butler was asleep or awake; his eyes were open but he seemed to be in a state of intense alarm, as if under the influence of some terrible dream. He passed her door without noticing that it was open, and proceeded to the drawing-room, which he entered. The governess, without hesitation followed him, and found him turning over the sofa-cushions, and moving the chairs, as if searching for something.

"P—," she said, "what are you doing there?"

"I'm looking for them," he replied.

"I know they're somewhere here, and this time I'll have them. They shall not escape me now; I'll put a stop to this, once and for all."

The governess now called for assistance and the man was advised to go to bed. On inquiring next morning it was found that in consequence of the misfortune he had sought consolation from drinking, which he had carried to an immoderate extent. He was, however, resolved to cure himself of it; and being a man of strong determination, he felt he had succeeded. No sooner, however did he enter on his new situation, than the first night, on retiring to rest, two children placed themselves beside his bed and continued staring at him. He was not acquainted with them, and they offered a clasp to connect them with his history. The second and every following night, they again made their appearance, the poor man feeling the white certainty that if he took again to drinking they would vanish—but he could not succumb to the temptation.

Night after night, the same phantoms appeared to him regularly, till he could support the persecution no longer, and he attempted to drive them away, when he was detected by the young lady and the governess. What was the termination of the case, I know not. Doubtless he either became insane or returned to his drinking habits; all I know is, it was found impossible to retain him in his situation.

Another case I shall mention is even more terrible than the one already given. A lady called one morning on Dr. F—, a physician who was celebrated for his profound knowledge of disease connected with the brain, and consulted him about her husband. She informed the doctor, without too much attempt at concealment, that her husband had formerly been the captain of a ship in the East India Company's service, and he had unfortunately acquired habits of great intemperance. In consequence of some act which he had committed when intemperate and which was due to his credit, he became so disgusted with the degrading exhibition he had made of himself, that he resolved nothing should again tempt him to touch spirits, and he had since adhered strictly to his resolution. He felt the temptation occasionally come over him, however, very strongly; still he would not yield to it. At last, when there appeared to be every prospect of his becoming a reformed character, his wife noticed that he had become very uneasy, as if something was weighing on his mind, of which he did not like to inform her. She pressed him upon the point, and he told her that every night he had the same dream. A little old woman, with a red cloak and a red petticoat, appeared to him and gazed at him intently. Somehow he got the idea, that if he again commenced drinking she would leave him; but nothing would induce him to alter his resolution. The phantom, at last, exercised so strong an influence upon him that even during the daytime he had the blood-red cloak and petticoat she wore continually before his eyes. The lady told the doctor that she was afraid her husband was going out of his mind, and asked him what step she had better take to prevent it.

"I am sorry to tell you," said the doctor, "the case is a most serious one; and and if the greatest precautions are not used, it is extremely probable your husband will commit suicide. You must watch him narrowly, and prevent it if possible. My advice to you is, to take him abroad immediately—to the south of Italy, or somewhere else—so that he may have a total change of scene; and the sooner you go the better."

The lady promised to follow the advice of the doctor, and without informing her husband of her reasons, she earnestly pressed him to take her for a trip into Italy, adding at the same time, she was sure it would benefit his health as well. He agreed to her request, and preparations were made for their departure. When the day arrived for

them to start, and the carriage was at the door to take them to the railway-station, he suddenly stopped, and told his wife to wait a moment, as he had left something in his bedroom. A few minutes afterwards she heard the report of a pistol, and on rushing upstairs, found to her horror, that her husband had shot himself.

Should the few facts I have mentioned make any impression on the mind of the reader, I sincerely trust, he will not be contented without investigating the question further. Let him inquire of any experienced medical man of his acquaintance, whether the facts alluded to are not of every-day occurrence. For my own part, I have but one test of the evil of drinking, either in greater or less degree; and that is of Scriptural origin: "Therefore by their fruits shall ye know them." If the mature fruits of a tree produce effects such as I have named, what must be the value and quality of the plant itself?—Good Words, June 1866.

H. K. FOWLER, Agent.

FIRE & LIFE INSURANCE.

CATARH!

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The governess immediately sent for the butler, who was in bed, and in a short time he was brought into the room. The lady asked him if he had seen the children, and he replied, "Yes, I have seen them, and I have just now come to tell you that they are gone."

"I know they're somewhere here, and this time I'll have them. They shall not escape me now; I'll put a stop to this, once and for all."

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H. K. FOWLER, Agent.

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The symptoms of Catarh are at first very slight.

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Another common and important symptom of Catarh is that the person is obliged to clear his throat in the morning of a thick or slimy mucus, which has fallen from the head during the night. When this takes place, the person may be sure that his disease is on its way to the lungs, and should soon no time in arresting it.

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This remedy contains no MINERAL or POISONOUS INGREDIENTS, but is prepared from vegetable extracts EXCLUSIVELY; therefore it is

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